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# SAVING LABOR AND MATERIALS by EASIER LAUNDRY METHODS



## GENERAL HINTS

**STAND ERECT.** Have tubs and ironing board at comfortable heights.

**PORTABLE TUBS.** Fill through a piece of hose attached to the faucet or pump. Empty through a hole cut in bottom or in side near bottom.

**USE A WASHING MACHINE,** if possible. It saves rubbing. A good hand machine may be obtained at small cost.

**USE A SMOOTH, WELL-MADE WASHBOARD.** A jagged washboard tears the clothes.

**USE A WRINGER.** It presses out the water without straining the fibers

**HAVE CLEAN, WELL-KEPT IRONS.**

**WASH CLOTHES FREQUENTLY AND BEFORE THEY BECOME TOO SOILED.** It saves your strength and the clothes.

**SAVE IRONING BY CHOOSING SIMPLE CLOTHING AND LINEN.**  
Many articles including crepe, seersucker, and knitted garments may be pulled into shape instead of ironed.

*Thrift Leaflet No. 5*

C MARSHALL STEWART

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & TREASURY DEPARTMENT



## WASHING

### WHITE COTTON AND LINEN MATERIALS

**Sort Clothes** according to the kind of garment and amount of soil.

**Remove stains.**

**Soak** in cool water one-half hour; or, if convenient, soap the badly soiled parts, roll up, just cover with water, and let stand overnight.

**Wash** in clean, hot, soapy water or cold water and naphtha soap.

**Put in boiler** of cold soapy water and boil 5 minutes. It helps to sterilize and whiten clothes.

**Rinse** until no dirt or soap comes out into the water. Use warm water at first so the soap will not harden.

**Wring.** Set the rolls of the wringer tight for cotton materials, loose for linen; or squeeze linen in the hands; hard wringing creases it badly. Fold buttons in flat to prevent tearing.

**Blue and starch if desired.**

### SILKS, WOOLENS, AND COLORED MATERIALS

**Use—**

Lukewarm water—no change of temperature between washing and rinsing.

Soap solution.

A kneading motion rather than rubbing.

A wringer with loosened rollers for silks.

## HANGING AND DRYING

Have clothespins and line clean.

Put like clothes together.

Hang all clothes wrong side out.

Hang garments by bands, belts, or seams.

Dry white cotton and linen clothes in sun; it whitens them.

Dry colored materials in shade.

Dry woollens in shade or indoors.

Lay knitted and crocheted articles flat and dry them indoors.

Roll white silk in heavy cloth and let stand at least one-half hour.

## IRONING

### WHITE COTTON AND LINEN MATERIALS

Have clothes evenly dampened.

Use clean hot irons.

Iron thoroughly dry.

Iron with the thread of the goods, preferably with the lengthwise threads.

Iron as large a space at one time as possible.

Iron first the parts which can hang off the board when finished and those which dry out quickly.

### SILKS, WOOLENS, AND COLORED MATERIALS

Use a medium hot iron.

Iron on the wrong side. Exceptions are colored cotton and linen garments such as aprons and children's dresses that need a smooth surface to keep clean longer.

Silks and woolens may be covered with a damp cheesecloth and ironed or pressed on the right side with a hotter iron.

## FACTS TO REMEMBER

### **Strong soap—**

Hardens and shrinks woolens.

Yellowes white silks.

Removes color in colored materials.

### **Rubbing—**

Wears all fabrics.

Hardens woolens.

Gives silk a rough and wavy look.

Injures color.

### **Sunlight—**

Bleaches and whitens white cotton and linen material.

Hardens and shrinks woolens.

Yellowes white silks and woolens.

Fades colors.

### **Temperature—**

Sudden changes harden and shrink woolens.

Anything hotter than lukewarm injures silk and may change or remove color from any fabric.

SPEND WISELY



SAVE SANELY

## RECIPES AND DIRECTIONS

### SOAP SOLUTION

Soap solution makes suds more quickly than soap in the cake; it cleans more evenly and with less wear to the material than soap rubbed on. Make up a quantity for use as needed. Use up bits of soap in this way.

Dissolve 1 cake white soap or 2 cups soap flakes, chips, or scraps in 3 quarts of hot water. For blankets, add 2 tablespoons borax and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup ammonia.

### STARCH

1 to 4 tablespoons starch, according to stiffness desired.	$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon paraffin or white fat.
1 cup cold water.	1 quart boiling water.
$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon borax.	

Make a paste of the starch and water. Add the borax, fat, and boiling water. Boil 20 minutes, stirring thoroughly until clear and smooth. If a scum or lumps form, strain. Use hot for all except colored clothes. Turn garments wrong side out before starching. Starch first those things you want stiffest, as water from garments thins starch. Freezing and wind both take starch from clothes.

### BLUING

Make a dark bluing water and add enough to the final rinse water to give desired shade. Stir well. Use less bluing for fine soft materials and linens, and more for coarse thick materials. Some bluing contains a compound of iron. This will cause rust spots if it comes in contact with soap. Therefore rinse out all soap before bluing. If you have good drying facilities, your clothes will keep white without bluing.

### SOFTENING WATER

Soft water is necessary for easy laundry work. Soften either by boiling or by chemicals carefully measured and thoroughly dissolved in the wash water before putting in the clothes.

To each gallon of water add  $\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoon washing soda or 1 teaspoon lye for ordinary white cotton and linen materials, and 1 tablespoon borax for other fabrics.

Send for Thrift Leaflet No. 6, "How to Remove Stains."

THEN BUY WAR	 <b>W.S.S.</b> WAR SAVINGS STAMPS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT	SAVINGS STAMPS
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